



Denali Commission
510 L Street, Suite 410
Anchorage, AK 99501

907.271.1414 tel
907.271.1415 fax
888.480.4321 toll free
www.denali.gov

Denali Training Fund Quarterly Progress Report

Funds for this project are provided by the USDOL and the Denali Commission and managed, in partnership, by the Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development.

Name of Organization: Alaska Native Tribal Health Organization	
Name of Project: Dental Health Aide Therapist Training Program (DENTEX)	
Reporting Period: January 1, 2009 to March 31, 2009	
Contact Person: Dr. Ron Nagel	
Contact Number: 907-729-3645	E-Mail Address: rnagel@anthc.org
Expenditures to date: Financial report is included	
Certification: I certify that the information in this report is current, correct and true and in accordance with the terms and conditions of the agreement.	
Signed by: <i>Ron Nagel</i>	Dated: <i>4/14/09</i>

1. In a few sentences, please describe the scope of your project:

The ANTHC Dental Health Aide Therapy Training Program (DENTEX) is a collaborative effort with the University of Washington's School of Medicine's MEDEX Northwest. DENTEX trains Dental Health Aide Therapist (DHAT) students to provide dental disease prevention and oral healthcare services. These students, once certified, will be deployed by their sponsoring Tribal Health Organization to a village clinic as DHATs. The goal is to increase the dental workforce in Rural Alaska so that the significant dental health disparities suffered by Rural Alaskans can be removed.

2. Project Activities for this Reporting Period: Describe the grant activities that happened during this report period. Include planning, advertisement and/or training performance that occurred this quarter? List any accomplishments achieved. (Attach advertisements if applicable)

Student Activities this quarter in the Anchorage Training Center are:

We have eight new students who are beginning their training in Anchorage. A five day pre-session course began January 5th with regularly scheduled classes beginning the following week.

We also welcome a new staff member Dr. Sarah Shoffstall, who joined Dr. Williard in teaching the "Introduction to Dental Health Aide" course. Dr. Shoffstall will also provide part-time instruction in Bethel as one of three Clinical Instructors splitting that position.

We also welcomed UW's Dr. Phillip Weinstein back at the end of January to teach his course on Community Based Dental Prevention.

We were able to once again have a table at the ANMC Health Fair where students applied fluoride, and discussed what its like to be a student and their adjustments to Anchorage.

Students studied General Health Science courses taught by the University of Alaska Anchorage WAMMI program professors. They spend half a day in the science classes and the other half working on clinical skills and the prevention program.

Students are learning infection control from Stephanie Olson, a certified dental assistant who also runs the UAA dental assisting program.

Student Activities in Bethel Yuut Elitnaurviat Dental Training Clinic are:

Classes started January 12, 2009. Six students made the transition from the first year of training in Anchorage to the second year in Bethel. The students are Tatiana Barraclough from Atka, Bernadette Charles from Mountain Village, Tambre Guido from Anchorage, Ooyuan Nagaruk from Elim, Marian Petla from New Stuyahok, and Ben Steward from Seward.

On Sunday, January 18, the students had the opportunity to participate in "Mushing for Brushing". This is the second year that the students assisted with this dental promotional event that is conducted during the Bogus Creek 150 dog sled race. The Bogus Creek 150 is held in conjunction with the Kuskokwim 300.

The first dental patients for this class were scheduled on Wednesday, January 21st. The students completed dental exams and treatment plans as well as provided oral hygiene instruction.

Community Projects began with Bethel Head Start. The students visited the school to provide screening exams and preventive services, such as fluoride varnish and Povidone-Iodine. The students have been continuing their Community Project activities: Marian Petla and Bernadette Charles are doing Head Start. Tambre Guido and Ooyuan Nagaruk visited the Pre-Maternal Home. Bernadette Charles and Ben Steward participated in the Yukon-Kuskokwim Health Corporation's (YKHC) Career Pathways Brown-Bag Luncheon at the Bethel Regional High School on February 25th. They were part of a panel discussion targeting dental careers.

Dr. Anthony Brusca, a general dentist from Arizona, is the first of three instructors providing clinical instruction in Bethel this year. His primary focus is Local Anesthesia, Dental Anatomy, and Diagnosis and Treatment Planning. Dr. Robert Allen, the second instructor for the year, began teaching his course on Extracting Primary and Permanent teeth.

Dr. Louis Fiset from the University of Washington conducted his first site visit of the year. Dr. Kenneth Bolin who has been instructing the 1st year classes in Caries and ART came to our Clinic in Bethel to oversee the work being done as a supervising Dentist. Spring break began March 16th and ended March 27th. During this time our clinic moved to its new facilities within the new administrative building for the YUUT Elitnaurviat Training programs, school resumed Monday March 30th at the new site.

3. Scheduled Project Activities/Important Dates for next quarter:

Describe your planned activities and training for next few months. Please include important dates like graduation, site visits, travel, job fairs, etc.

March 30th will be the beginning of the Spring quarter for Anchorage and for Bethel.

Classes in Anchorage during the Spring Quarter are:

- Embryology/Histology taught by Dr. Katherine Rafferty from University of Washington
- Community Dentistry taught by Dr. Willard and Dr. Shoffstall which includes Head Start Presentations
- Basic Restorative Function by Dr. Ron Nagel, our ANTHC Dental Consultant
- Oral Pathology instructed by Dr. Bea Gandara from University of Washington
- Local Anesthesia taught by Dr. Willard and Dr. Shoffstall
- Dr. Kenneth Bolin returns to instruct in Cariology and ART
- The quarter ends June 5th with the week following dedicated to retesting if needed

Bethel will be focusing on:

Patient centered skills including hygiene, prevention, restorations and extractions. They will be scheduling two to three patients a day per student during this quarter. Morning lectures will cover clinical information related to the patient they will be seeing that day or whom they saw the day before.

4. a. How many are in your training program during this reporting period?

We have eight students enrolled in the first year of training and six are in their second year at the Bethel training clinic. A total of 14 students currently enrolled in our program.

b. How many people have been trained and/or certified to date from this grant?

We have had four people complete two years of training, with three successfully graduating in December 2008. The three graduated students are in their preceptorships which should lead to certification in the next few months. The fourth student is pursuing certification as a primary dental health aide.

(Please complete form below.)

5. Please list complete the list by putting the community to which each individual trained is from, the type of training and certification, the graduation date and who will employ them upon completion of training.

Community where trainee lives	Type of Training/ Service	Type of Certification to be earned/earned	Dates of training	Graduation Date	Employment commitment after training is complete
Chistochina Danielle Boston	DHAT	Two year Dental Health Aide Therapist training certificate.	January 2007 to December 2008	December 12,2008	Will work for Mt. Sanford Tribal Consortium. Preceptorship remains to be determined
Yakutat Sheena Nelson	DHAT	Same as above	Same as above	December 12,2008	Will work for Yakutat Tribe. Preceptorship is in process at SEARHC.
Klawock Dan Kennedy	DHAT	Same as above	Same as above	December 12,2008	Will work for SEARHC. Preceptorship is in process at SEARHC.
Russian Mission Christopher Evan	DHAT	Unsuccessful matriculation.	Same as above	none	
Bethel Tambre Guido	DHAT	Two year Dental Health Aide Therapist training certificate.	January 2008 to December 2009	12/11/2009	Will work for the Yukon Kuskokwim Health Corporation.

Seward Ben Steward	DHAT	Two year Dental Health Aide Therapist training certificate.	Same as above	12/11/2009	Will work for Tanana Chiefs Conference.
Elim Ooyuan Nagaruk	DHAT	Two year Dental Health Aide Therapist training certificate.	Same as above	12/11/2009	Will work for Tanana Chiefs Conference.
Mountain Village Bernadette Charles	DHAT	Two year Dental Health Aide Therapist training certificate.	Same as above	12/11/2009	Will work for the Yukon Kuskokwim Health Corporation.
New Stuyahok Marian Petla	DHAT	Two year Dental Health Aide Therapist training certificate.	Same as above	12/11/2009	Will work for Bristol Bay Area Health Corporation.
Atka Tatiana Barraclough	DHAT	Two year Dental Health Aide Therapist training certificate.	Same as above	12/11/2009	Will work for the Aleutian Pribilof Islands Association.
Ft. Yukon Corrina Cadzow	DHAT	Two year Dental Health Aide Therapist training certificate.	Jan 2009 to Dec 2010	12/2010 date TBA	Will work for CATG in Fort Yukon
Unalakleet Bonnie Johnson	DHAT	Two year Dental Health Aide Therapist training certificate.	Same as above	12/2010 date TBA	Will work for the Yukon Kuskokwim Health Corporation.
Scammon Bay Alison Kaganak	DHAT	Two year Dental Health Aide Therapist training certificate.	Same as above	12/2010 date TBA	Will work for the Yukon Kuskokwim Health Corporation.
Noatak Anjanette Norton	DHAT	Two year Dental Health Aide Therapist training certificate.	Same as above	12/2010 date TBA	Will work for the Maniilaq Association.
King Cove Erik Linduska	DHAT	Two year Dental Health Aide Therapist training certificate.	Same as above	12/2010 date TBA	Will work for Eastern Aleutian Tribes.
Manakotak Ferdella Sharp	DHAT	Two year Dental Health Aide Therapist training certificate.	Same as above	12/2010 date TBA	Will work for Bristol Bay Area Health Corporation.
Sand Point Chelsea Shoemaker	DHAT	Two year Dental Health Aide Therapist training certificate.	Same as above	12/2010 date TBA	Will work for Eastern Aleutian Tribes.
Mt. Village Phylicia Wilde	DHAT	Two year Dental Health Aide Therapist training certificate.	Same as above	12/2010 date TBA	Will work for the Yukon Kuskokwim Health Corporation.

Please copy and use another sheet if you need more spaces.

6. Please identify any problems or changes in your training project that will affect the budget, scope or timeline of the project. Is your training on schedule? What are the reasons for any difficulties or delays? Are you over budget/under budget? Have you had to change the initial scope?

There are no changes to what was written before except revising/refining of the curriculum.

The grant funding we have received has deadlines in 2010 and 2011 and could impact the continuation of this program. The project scope and timeline are on target as well.

The curriculum is effective and the students are earning grades appropriate to their progress. Our scope has remained the same; which is to train DHATs over a two year course so they can return to work with their collaborative dentist in order to complete the final preceptorship to be certified Dental Health Aide Therapists. If there are students who need remediation in certain elements of their training, there is a student progress committee set up to address that need and tribal sponsors are involved in the process as well.

Please provide an explanation to this change and your resolution to the variance.

No changes.

7. How are you or will you be evaluating the individuals being trained to ensure competency, skill level and understanding? (Testing, assessment, etc)

Throughout the program students are given quizzes on didactic materials and each subject has a final written exam. Remediation for unsuccessful completion of quizzes and exams are tailored to the individual student. As part of a competency based program remediation is aimed at solidifying the necessary knowledge base prior to students moving on to the next part of training. A student progress committee made up of faculty from both training centers, ANTHC, and UW meets to discuss and implement remediation when it is needed. When a student does not progress through remediation, the committee can recommend discontinuation of the student in the program. A similar process is undertaken in regard to clinical work. There are clinical evaluation criteria employed to assess each student's daily work, competency evaluations to assess readiness before undertaking new procedures on patients, and quarterly grades denoting overall progress. Students struggling clinically will additionally be tasked with helping the student progress committee create a student improvement contract. The student is then to work toward meeting the criteria outlined in the contract during a specified length of time. No student can continue in the program without showing appropriate competency, skill level and understanding.

8. Please identify areas that we can assist you in the future.

Our funding is of concern looking down the road at sustainability. Continuing to be able to apply for these Training Funds will assist us with costs in the 2nd year of training.